

Commission Must Decide

Council Ruled Out of Order on Garage Case

Torrance Councilmen may lack jurisdiction in civil service matters which were before them last night, but they made it clear their wishes had better be respected.

At issue is the appointment of a new garage foreman which has been protested by local 1117 of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, and new specifications for a position of assistant traffic engineer.

In both cases, the council has no jurisdiction, according to rulings by City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier. He told councilmen their role is to set policy, not decide issues raised by past actions.

POLICY DECISIONS. Remelmeier explained, are applicable only to future decisions — not to past actions.

Specific issues of the garage foreman case involve the question of when an employee gets a "permanent appointment."

Sam Hunnigs, representing Local 1117, argued that a permanent appointment is not made until an employee completes his six-month probationary period.

Under such a rule, the newly appointed garage foreman, Richard Rozendal, was not eligible to take the examination for promotion because he had not met a requirement of six months on the job as a permanent employee, Hunnigs said.

REMELMEIER had ruled that an employee could meet the requirement by working only six months. He did, however, say the rule was sufficiently ambiguous for "reasonable men" to reach a contrary conclusion.

Councilmen held Hunnigs was right and had a motion on the floor when Remelmeier told them such a determination would have been made by the city's Civil Service Commission.

Mayor Albert Isen, author of the motion, quickly changed it and asked that the matter be sent to the commission for an interpretation — with a note explaining the council's feeling on the matter.

THE SECOND matter involving specifications for a new position in the traffic and lighting department, also drew councilmen's ire.

The specifications originally called for graduation from a four-year school in civil or electrical engineering. Be-

cause of the requirement, Albert Kovachs, who served as acting traffic engineer for more than a year, is ineligible to take the examination.

Councilmen ordered the specifications altered to permit Kovachs to take the examination. The Civil Service Commission argues that altering the requirements would downgrade the job and refused to change the specifications.

REMELMEIER again told councilmen their right to alter the specifications is "not clear" and suggested an amendment to civil service rules.

"Why is this before us then?" demanded J. A. Beasley. "We've changed specifications before."

The city attorney said previous changes had met approval from the commission. "This is antagonistic to the commission," he added.

"WHEN TWO things get antagonistic, someone has to be on top," Mayor Isen commented, "and it's not the Civil Service Commission."

The specifications, however, were sent back to the commission — along with another note expressing the council's feeling.

Isen and Beasley both claimed the wishes of the council have been disregarded and Beasley warned, "We can fire them (Civil Service Commissioners) all."

AT CONFERENCE
Representing Torrance Unified School District at the sixth annual professional relations conference of the California Teachers Association in Los Angeles Friday were Dr. Robert C. Morton, assistant superintendent, and Dr. James G. Sibert, personnel consultant.

Press-Herald to Publish County Tax Sale Notices

Approximately 350 parcels sold at the tax sale auction will appear in The Journal of Commerce & Independent Review, with offices at 220 W. 1st St., Los Angeles 90012, beginning this month. The informal reports on the available properties will give addresses or pin-point exact locations, show lot sizes, and provide other detailed information.

The Torrance Press Herald has been selected by County Tax Collector, Harold J. Ostly, to publish descriptions of the three properties to be sold in this area. The localized publication of these notices is a long standing policy of the County Board of Supervisors. This policy assures that local residents will be kept informed of county activities in their areas. The first publication will be during the last week of January.

The improved and unimproved properties are to be sold at public auction by the Tax Collector beginning at 10 a.m., Feb. 23, 1966, and the sale will continue from day to day until all parcels are sold.

Bidding on the parcels begins at \$10 and they will be sold to the highest bidder if redemption rights are not exercised in accordance with law before the first bid is received.

A complete listing of all county-wide properties to be

... Topless

(Continued from Page 1) ramifications that just a local ordinance.

MILLER predicted passage of such an amendment would "force a decision" at the state level. "Topless is just a symbol," he added. "It's a question of just who has preempted whom."

Isen would not predict how councilmen might vote — it was unanimous last night — but said he hoped the council "is 100 per cent with me on this."

"Let's get tough," Isen added.

"Amen," commented the Rev. Frank Knaus, pastor of the WALTERIA Methodist Church, from the audience. Another minister, the Rev. H. Milton Sipple, pastor of the First Christian Church of Torrance, said ministers throughout the city would "back the mayor's proposal."

PTA Urges Passage of Bond Funds

Torrance Council of the PTA went on record this week as supporting the Feb. 8 school bond election.

PTA volunteers will actively work towards passage of the bonds under a committee headed by Kenneth Spooner and John Sala, according to Mrs. Hiro Muranako, PTA council president.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, explained the need for building funds

at a meeting of PTA workers, lege-bound students, and to purchase two additional elementary school sites and build two schools on those sites, Dr. Hull stated.

Existing bond moneys, authorized in April, 1963, have run out.



"Knowledge comes from taking things apart, wisdom from putting them together."

Employes' Art Show Continues

An art exhibit featuring works of employees of the Torrance Unified School District will remain on display through Jan. 31. Originally scheduled to close Jan. 20, the art show has been extended to allow the public opportunity for additional viewing.

On display at the Educational Materials Building, 2336 Plaza del Amo, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, the exhibit includes oils, tempers, watercolors, charcoals, inks, pastels, mosaics, sculpture, and "whimsical art." Entrants include custodians, clerks, teachers, and administrative employees.

Artists were honored at a tea Sunday afternoon. Cohosts included: the California Elementary School Administrators' Assn., Torrance Chapter, Local 1301, South Bay Federation of Teachers; the Torrance Education Association; Local 1101 American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees; Torrance School Employees; and the staff of the Educational Materials Building.

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... Pay Hike

(Continued from Page 1) proved unanimously on final reading.

Effective at the beginning of the new terms — April 13 — salaries for both the city clerk and treasurer will be hiked to \$1,025 per month. Both jobs are to be full-time positions.

IN OTHER action last night, the council:

• Referred to the council's airport committee a proposed ordinance regulating the establishment of heliports in the city.

• Adopted, on first reading, an ordinance controlling the use of "amusement devices" and making betting on the outcome of games played with such devices a misdemeanor crime.

• Awarded a contract for eight pick-up trucks to Vel's Ford of Torrance on a bid of \$15,855.72. Following negotiations on the price of the eight trucks, an adjusted price of \$14,164.91 was set. The Vel's Ford price is \$202.56 more than a bid submitted by an Inglewood firm for Dodge trucks.

• Awarded a contract for reprinting of the city code to Miss Shirley Henry. The new printing, to include revisions in the code adopted since 1957, is for 150 copies.

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